



FHHR LABORATORY SPECIMEN COLLECTION

STOOL

Please read carefully before proceeding with collection.

Materials required:

- Clean, dry, plastic container (e.g. Margarine container)
- Collection containers for specific tests, obtained from laboratory

Special Considerations:

1. Do **not** use a laxative before collecting specimen.
2. Do **not** collect a specimen within ten (10) days of being on antibiotics or having a barium enema.
3. If collection vial contains a fluid, **do not discard**, as its purpose is to preserve the specimen. **DO NOT SWALLOW**. If swallowed, **drink large amounts of milk or water and contact poison control immediately at 1-866-454-1212. Do not induce vomiting.**

Specimen collection instructions:

1. Wash hands thoroughly with soap and water.
2. Void urine into the toilet and collect the stool specimen into the clean, dry, plastic container.
3. Collect stool sample. Several methods are suggested.
 - a) Place a plastic sheet (saran wrap) over the toilet and pass stool onto the plastic; or
 - b) Stool can be collected in a clean, empty plastic food container; or
 - c) Stool can be collected on clean paper toweling over newspaper
4. **DO NOT ALLOW URINE OR WATER TO TOUCH THE STOOL SPECIMEN.**
5. Collect the specimen from the middle of the stool, especially from any area that is mucousy or discolored.
6. Regardless of which container you have been given, ensure all containers are clearly marked with your first and last name, DOB, and date of collection.



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STOOL (Cont'd)

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Specimen collection instructions:

Please read the additional instructions below that pertain to the containers you have been given.

ANY CONTAINERS THAT ARE LEAKING OR CONTAMINATED WITH FECES ON THE OUTSIDE WILL BE DISCARDED. PLEASE OBTAIN NEW CONTAINERS IF NEEDED.

STOOL C&S (CARY BLAIR MEDIA W/INDICATOR, contains pink fluid)

Write collection date and time on the container when you collect the specimen.

- Fill the container to the “fill line”, or as close as you can, using one bowel movement. Do **not** overfill. Replace cap tightly.
- If you have been given more than one of these containers, collect the required specimens on separate days.
- **Refrigerate specimen after collection and return to the Laboratory within 2 days.**

OVA AND PARASITES (Feces – Parasitology, contains a clear fluid)

Write collection date and time on the container when you collect each specimen. Specimens without collection dates will be discarded.

- Fill the container to the “fill line”.
- Mix the sample well into the preserving fluid using the spoon provided.
- Replace the cap tightly and shake vigorously to mix.
- If you have been given more than one of these containers, collect the specimens on alternate days, for example Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Write date of collection on the label.
- **Specimens may be kept at room temperature and returned to the Laboratory within 1 day.**

Fecal Collector container, container does not contain fluid

Write collection date and time on the container when you collect each specimen

Fill the container approximately 1/4 full.

- **Refrigerate specimen after collection and return to the Laboratory within 1 day.**

These may all be collected the same day -Stool for WBC

-Stool for C. Diff

-Stool for Viral Testing